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WHITE MAGIC

by

Madelon St. Denis ✓

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DEC - 5 '22 ✓

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(Description)

The Boll Weevil has so infested the cotton crop of a Southern estate called "Fairfield", that its owner is reduced to comparative poverty, and compelled to send his only son to the North to seek money enough to restore the family fortunes. The planter himself is too old fashioned to use modern methods in fighting the weevil pest; but his niece, after having vainly tried to convert him, spends a small legacy which is left her, on Nitrate of Soda. With the aid of this Nitrate, properly applied, she succeeds in restoring the cotton crop of her Uncle's estate to its old time perfection, so that the son is able to return to his old home, and his clever little sweetheart.

W H I T E M A G I C -- T I T L E S

NANCY BLANCHARD; DICK'S ORPHANED COUSIN.

1. "Just look at that sorry cotton, Dick -- not worth picking!- Isn't it heart breaking!"
2. "I'm going to make good up North, dear; and when I come back we'll build up the old place together."

ROBERT BURDETTE; THE OWNER OF FAIRFIELDS.

3. "It's going to be hard for us without Dick, but his going may mean better times for us all."
4. "How can we have better times, ever -- when that one bale is all we get from eight acres of ~~cotton~~ land?"
5. AN AFTERNOON RIDE.--
6. "Some crop dis yeah offen Marse Jim's ridgeland!"
7. "Do you mean to say that all that cotton comes from Mr. Pendleton's eight acres of ridgeland?"
8. "It's White Magic as done it. We jes' puts it in de groun' and de cotton grows somethin' p'digious!"
9. "I don' know no odder name fo' it --- we jes' calls it White Magic, an' dat's w'at it am."
10. "Yeah com' de overseer now; he kin tell yo' all de tecklocalities!"
11. THE TINY CAUSE OF ALL THE BURDETTE'S FINANCIAL TROUBLES.
12. "It's you and your kind that have driven my boy from his home!"

13. "Mr. Pendleton's overseer told me how they force their cotton so that lots of bolls mature before there are enough weevils to do great damage."
14. "I don't believe in these new-fangled notions! I've grown cotton all my life, and I know what can be done with it!"
15. "Well, I'm going to find out all about the new way, then perhaps I can make you believe in it."
16. NANCY GOES TO THE EXPERIMENT STATION TO LEARN THE SCIENTIFIC USE OF NITRATE OF SODA.
17. "After the soil is prepared we apply 200 Lbs. of Nitrate of Soda to the acre before planting."
18. "In one case a row was skipped ----"
19. "The result was, in ten feet; 55 bolls in the first row, 2 bolls in the second, and 60 in the third."
20. "I recently saw a striking instance of the effect of Nitrate of Soda -----"
21. "Planted same time --- three months growth -- plants without Nitrate of Soda, 15 inches high; with, 30 inches high, and four times as much fruit."
22. "Now let me show you one of my plots."
23. NANCY TRIES TO CONVINCE HER UNCLE THAT PROPER FERTILIZATION WILL GREATLY INCREASE HIS YIELD OF COTTON.
24. "That may be all right in some places, but it won't work on my soil!"



25. "But, Uncle; they showed me at the experiment station what Nitrate does for the cotton crop, and the increased yield makes the cost seem nothing!"
26. "You're right, it's the weevil we've got to beat; but that's exactly what Nitrate does!"
27. "That's all nonsense --- How could it beat the weevil?"
28. "Because it is immediately available as food for the plant, producing early and heavy fruitage, so that we can get a good crop in spite of the weevil!"
29. "Ol' Marse's so tickled wif our cotton crop dat he gib eberybody a present."
30. "Hub! What you all done so won'erful?"
31. "Well, it's dis-a-way: dar's misto cotton plant --- he's our friend; an' den dar's bre'r weevil, who's got a large family to suupo't ----"
32. No! No! NO! I'll have nothing to do with it!"
33. "Here comes Jim with the mail; perhaps theres a letter from Dick!"
34. "Aunt Matilda has left me two hundred dollars in cash; now ----"
35. A YEAR FILLED WITH HOPES AND FEARS, BRIGHT VISIONS AND BRAVE EFFORT.
36. "And you'll never, never go away again --- without me?"
37. "Now tell me how you did it all, you wonderful girl!"
38. "Uncle stormed whenever I mentioned modern fertilization, so I invested Aunt Matilda's legacy ----"

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